CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A masking compound comprising a vulcanized rubber latex, at least one filler and aqueous ammonia.

2. The masking compound of Claim 1 characterized in that a film layer of the compound dries to form an elastic rubber membrane.

3. A process for cleaning a surface, the process comprising the steps of:

   applying a masking compound comprising a vulcanized rubber latex, at least one filler and aqueous ammonia to a surface to be cleaned;

   allowing the masking compound to dry and form an elastic rubber membrane; and,

   removing the elastic rubber membrane from the surface.

4. A process for masking a surface, the process comprising the steps of:

   applying a masking compound comprising a vulcanized rubber latex, at least one filler and aqueous ammonia to a surface to be masked;

   allowing the masking compound to dry and form an elastic rubber membrane, thereby forming a masked surface;

   applying a coating to a surface to be coated in the vicinity of the masked surface; and,

   removing the elastic rubber membrane from the substrate subsequent to coating the surface to be coated.

6. A method of isolating a space, the method comprising the steps of:

   providing a first space and a second space, wherein the first space and second space are connected by an opening having at least one edge;

   applying a masking compound along at least part of the edge of the opening or in close proximity to the opening;

affixing a sheet to the masking compound such that the sheet covers the opening, thereby isolating the first space from the second space.

7.   A method of dividing a space, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first space, wherein the first space is at least partially defined by a first surface and an opposing second surface;

applying a masking compound to at least part of the first surface;

affixing a sheet to the masking compound such that the sheet forms an at least partial barrier, thereby dividing the first space into a second space and a third space.